Petition against Domestic Violence Act

4145. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether legal fraternity has sent a petition to Government against the Domestic Violence Act opining that it is breaking families and marriages as an institution;

(b) if so, how many cases have been filed in Delhi till the 31st of December, 2007 and how many victims got justice and guilty were punished; and

(c) whether the information about this Act has percolated to women in rural areas as cases of actual abuse, threat of abuse physical, sexual, verbal, emotional or economic are very rampant there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per information maintained by National Crime Records Bureau, 102,155 and 364 cases have been registered under the Act during the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 respectively. In addition, Government has taken a number of steps to disseminate the provisions of the Act which include media campaigns, awareness generation camps and holding of workshops/seminars all over the country.

Barbarous behaviour with Anganwadi, ASHA and ANM workers

†4146. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that male police personnel and workers of a political party misbehaved and clashed with the workers of Anganwadis, ASHA and ANM when they were raising their demands before the Chief Minister of Punjab in Bhatinda on the 27th March, 2008;

(b) what are the demands of these workers and the Central Government's view thereon; and

(c) whether Government would give directions to State Government to punish the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As reported by the Government of Punjab, on 27.3.2008, only Anganwadi workers and not ASHA and ANM workers raised anti Government slogans during the visit of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab at Bathinda. The policemen, lady police and women workers of Istri Akali Dal stopped them from shouting slogans with a view to maintain law and order. This resulted in a scuffle between them.

(b) Demand Charter submitted by the Anganwadi Mulazim Union Punjab is given in the Statement *{See* below).

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme envisages the Anganwadi Workers

(AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) as honorary workers from the local community

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.